# American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition, Judge Tells Harvard Law School

*By Geraldine Hawkins — March 7, 2003 — MassNews.com*

*Speaker: Judge Edith H. Jones, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit*

*Date of speech: February 28, 2003 — Federalist Society, Harvard Law School*

*Original URL (dead):*
*http://www.massnews.com/2003_editions/3_March/030703_mn_american_legal_system_corrupt.shtm*

*Archived full text:*
*https://judicial-discipline-reform.org/docs/CA5_JEdith_Jones_corrupt_legal_sys.pdf*

==========

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

Topics · Post Article

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

Judge Edith H. Jones of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit talks to members of Harvard Law School's

Fed-eralist Society. Jones said that the question of what is mor-ally right is routinely sacrificed to what is politicallyexpedient.

The American legal system has been corrupted almost beyond recognition, Judge Edith Jones of the U.S. Court of

Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, told the Federalist Society of Harvard Law School on February 28.

She said that the question of what is morally right is routinely sacrificed to what is politically expedient. The change

has come because legal philosophy has descended to nihilism. "The integrity of law, its religious roots, its transcendentquality are disappearing. I saw the movie 'Chicago' with Richard Gere the other day. That's the way the public thinksabout lawyers," she told the students.

"The first 100 years of American lawyers were trained on Blackstone, who wrote that: 'The law of nature . dictated by

God himself . is binding . in all counties and at all times; no human laws are of any validity if contrary to this; andsuch of them as are valid derive all force and all their authority . from this original.' The Framers created a governmentof limited power with this understanding of the rule of law - that it was dependent on transcendent religiousobligation," said Jones.

She said that the business about all of the Founding Fathers being deists is "just wrong," or "way overblown." She says

they believed in "faith and reason," and this did not lead to intolerance. "This is not a prescription for intolerance ornarrow sectarianism," she continued, "for unalienable rights were given by God to all our fellow citizens. Having lostsight of the moral and religious foundations of the rule of law, we are vulnerable to the destruction of our freedom, ourequality before the law and our self-respect. It is my fervent hope that this new century will experience a revival of theoriginal understanding of the rule of law and its roots.

"The answer is a recovery of moral principle, the sine qua non of an orderly society. Post 9/11, many events have been

clarified. It is hard to remain a moral relativist when your own people are being killed."

According to the judge, the first contemporary threat to the rule of law comes from within the legal system itself.

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

the outside looking-in, "described lawyers as a natural aristocracy in America," Jones told the students. "The

intellectual basis of their profession and the study of law based on venerable precedents bred in them habits of orderand a taste for formalities and predictability." As Tocqueville saw it, "These qualities enabled attorneys to stand apartfrom the passions of the majority.

Lawyers were respected by the citizens and able to guide them and moderate the public's whims. Lawyers were

essential to tempering the potential tyranny of the majority. "Some lawyers may still perceive our profession in thisflattering light, but to judge from polls and the tenor of lawyer jokes, I doubt the public shares Tocqueville's viewanymore, and it is hard for us to do so.

"The legal aristocracy have shed their professional independence for the temptations and materialism associated with

becoming businessmen. Because law has become a self-avowed business, pressure mounts to give clients the advicethey want to hear, to pander to the clients' goal through deft manipulation of the law. While the business mentalityproduces certain benefits, like occasional competition to charge clients lower fees, other adverse effects includeadvertising and shameless self-promotion. The legal system has also been wounded by lawyers who themselves nolonger respect the rule of law,"

The judge quoted Kenneth Starr as saying, "It is decidedly unchristian to win at any cost," and added that most

lawyers agree with him. However, "An increasingly visible and vocal number apparently believe that the strategic useof anger and incivility will achieve their aims. Others seem uninhibited about making misstatements to the court ortheir opponents or destroying or falsifying evidence," she claimed. "When lawyers cannot be trusted to observe the fairprocesses essential to maintaining the rule of law, how can we expect the public to respect the process?"

Lawsuits Do Not Bring 'Social Justice'Another pernicious development within the legal system is the misuse of lawsuits, according to her. "We see lawsuits

wielded as weapons of revenge," she says. "Lawsuits are brought that ultimately line the pockets of lawyers rather thantheir clients. . The lawsuit is not the best way to achieve social justice, and to think it is, is a seriously flawedhypothesis. There are better ways to achieve social goals than by going into court."

Jones said that employment litigation is a particularly fertile field for this kind of abuse. "Seldom are employment

discrimination suits in our court supported by direct evidence of race or sex-based animosity. Instead, the courts areasked to revisit petty interoffice disputes and to infer invidious motives from trivial comments or work-performancecriticism. Recrimination, second-guessing and suspicion plague the workplace when tenuous discrimination suits arefiled . creating an atmosphere in which many corporate defendants are forced into costly settlements because theysimply cannot afford to vindicate their positions. "While the historical purpose of the common law was to compensatefor individual injuries, this new litigation instead purports to achieve redistributive social justice.

Scratch the surface of the attorneys' self-serving press releases, however, and one finds how enormously profitable

social redistribution is for those lawyers who call themselves 'agents of change.'"Jones wonders, "What social goal isachieved by transferring millions of dollars to the lawyers, while their clients obtain coupons or token rebates."

The judge quoted George Washington who asked in his Farewell Address, "Where is the security for property, for

reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths in courts of justice?" Similarly, asked Jones,how can a system founded on law survive if the administrators of the law daily display their contempt for it?

"Lawyers' private morality has definite public consequences," she said. "Their misbehavior feeds on itself, encouraging

disrespect and debasement of the rule of law as the public become encouraged to press their own advantage in asystem they perceive as manipulatable." The second threat to the rule of law comes from government, which isencumbered with agencies that have made the law so complicated that it is difficult to decipher and often contradictsitself.

"Agencies have an inherent tendency to expand their mandate," says Jones. "At the same time, their decision-making

often becomes parochial and short-sighted. They may be captured by the entities that are ostensibly being regulated, or

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

unpredictable agency action have little recourse."

Jones recommends three books by Philip Howard: The Death of Common Sense, The Collapse of the Common Good

and The Lost Art of Drawing the Line, which further delineate this problem. The third and most comprehensive threatto the rule of law arises from contemporary legal philosophy.

"Throughout my professional life, American legal education has been ruled by theories like positivism, the residue of

legal realism, critical legal studies, post-modernism and other philosophical fashions," said Jones. "Each of thesetheories has a lot to say about the 'is' of law, but none of them addresses the 'ought,' the moral foundation or directionof law." Jones quoted Roger C. Cramton, a law professor at Cornell University, who wrote in the 1970s that "theordinary religion of the law school classroom" is "a moral relativism tending toward nihilism, a pragmatism tendingtoward an amoral instrumentalism, a realism tending toward cynicism, an individualism tending toward atomism, anda faith in reason and democratic processes tending toward mere credulity and idolatry."

No 'Great Awakening' In Law School ClassroomsThe judge said ruefully, "There has been no Great Awakening in the law school classroom since those words were

written." She maintained that now it is even worse because faith and democratic processes are breaking down."Theproblem with legal philosophy today is that it reflects all too well the broader post-Enlightenment problem ofphilosophy," Jones said. She quoted Ernest Fortin, who wrote in Crisis magazine: "The whole of modern thought . hasbeen a series of heroic attempts to reconstruct a world of human meaning and value on the basis of our purelymechanistic understanding of the universe."

Jones said that all of these threats to the rule of law have a common thread running through them, and she quoted

Professor Harold Berman to identify it: "The traditional Western beliefs in the structural integrity of law, itsongoingness, its religious roots, its transcendent qualities, are disappearing not only from the minds of law teachersand law students but also from the consciousness of the vast majority of citizens, the people as a whole; and more thanthat, they are disappearing from the law itself. The law itself is becoming more fragmented, more subjective, gearedmore to expediency and less to morality. . The historical soil of the Western legal tradition is being washed away . andthe tradition itself is threatened with collapse."

Judge Jones concluded with another thought from George Washington: "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead

to prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotismwho should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness - these firmest props of the duties of men andcitizens."

Upon taking questions from students, Judge Jones recommended Michael Novak's book, On Two Wings: Humble

Faith and Common Sense. "Natural law is not a prescriptive way to solve problems," Jones said. "It is a way to look atlife starting with the Ten Commandments."

Natural law provides "a framework for government that permits human freedom," Jones said. "If you take that away,

what are you left with? Bodily senses? The will of the majority? The communist view? What is it - 'from eachaccording to his ability, to each according to his need?' I don't even remember it, thank the Lord," she said to theamusement of the students. "I am an unabashed patriot - I think the United States is the healthiest society in the worldat this point in time," Jones said, although she did concede that there were other ways to accommodate the rule of law,such as constitutional monarchy.

"Our legal system is way out of kilter," she said. "The tort litigating system is wreaking havoc. Look at any trials that

have been conducted on TV. These lawyers are willing to say anything."

Potential Nominee to Supreme CourtJudge Edith Jones has been mentioned as a potential nominee to the Supreme Court in the Bush administration, but

does not relish the idea. "Have you looked at what people have to go through who are nominated for federal

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

those circumstances, who is going to go out to be a federal judge?"

Judge Edith H. Jones has a B.A. from Cornell University and a J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law. She

was appointed to the Fifth Circuit by President Ronald Reagan in 1985. Her office is in the U.S. Courthouse inHouston.

The Federalist Society was founded in 1982 when a group of law students from Harvard, Stanford, the University of

Chicago and Yale organized a symposium on federalism at Yale Law School. These students were unhappy with theacademic climate on their campuses for some of the reasons outlined by Judge Jones. The Federalist Society wascreated to be a forum for a wider range of legal viewpoints than they were hearing in the course of their studies.

From the four schools mentioned above, the Society has grown to include over 150 law school chapters. The Harvard

chapter, with over 250 members, is one of the nation's largest and most active. They seek to contribute to civilizeddialogue at the Law School by providing a libertarian and conservative voice on campus and by sponsoring speechesand debates on a wide range of legal and policy issues.

The Federalist Society consists of libertarians and conservatives interested in the current state of the legal profession. It

is founded on three principles: 1) the state exists to preserve freedom, 2) the separation of governmental powers iscentral to our Constitution and 3) it is emphatically the province and duty of the judiciary to state what the law is, notwhat it should be.

TOPICS: Constitution/Conservatism ; Culture/Society ; Extended News ; Government

KEYWORDS: edithjones ; federalistsociety ; fifthcircuit ; judge; judiciary

Navigation: use the links below to view more comments.

first 1-50, 51-94 next last

The judge quoted George Washington who asked in his Farewell Address, "Where is the security for property, for

reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths in courts of justice?"

Well, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, hurry up and get yourself the heck outta there.....we are ready and waiting for Edith.

1 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:18:19 PM by Liz

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | View Replies ]

To: GarySpFc

ping!

2 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:19:22 PM by GarySpFc (Sneakypete, De Oppresso Liber)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

Liberals call Judge Jones the "Horsewoman of the Right Wing Apocalypse." She's extremely conservative but not a

likely candidate to replace O'Connor because she wrote an opinion affirming a death penalty conviction where the

defendant's lawyer slept during trial. It wasn't nearly as bad as it sounds, but that opinion has followed her ever since.

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

"The first 100 years of American lawyers were trained on Blackstone, who wrote that: 'The law of nature . dictated by

God himself . is binding . in all counties and at all times; no human laws are of any validity if contrary to this; andsuch of them as are valid derive all force and all their authority . from this original.' The Framers created agovernment of limited power with this understanding of the rule of law - that it was dependent on transcendentreligious obligation," said Jones.

Good grief, put this woman on SCOTUS.

4 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:21:36 PM by SittinYonder (America is the Last Beach)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

Somebody speaking at HAh-Vah-D with a brain PING!

5 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:24:55 PM by in hoc signo vinces ("Soylent Green is People!")

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

Thank you for posting this. I knew who Judge Jones was. However, I did not have a clear index of her thinking. Now I

do. And I have a high respect for her thinking. Thank you, and thank Jim Robinson for making it possible.

Congressman Billybob

Latest column: "Replace Justice O'Connor -- But Which One?"

6 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:28:20 PM by Congressman Billybob (Will President Bush appoint a Justice who obeys the

Constitution? I give 65-35 odds on yes.)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Altair333

Why should she be blamed and held accountable to something that the defendant's lawyer did ?

She was just following the law, it's the defendant's fault if they hired a incompetent lawyer.

7 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:29:18 PM by Prophet in the wilderness (PSALM 53 : 1 The ( FOOL ) hath said in his heart

, There is no GOD .)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 3 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

Scared Bunny Blog

Not for the timid

8 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:32:47 PM by sharktrager (My life is like a box of chocolates, but someone took all the good

ones.)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Prophet in the wilderness

"Why should she be blamed and held accountable to something that the defendant's lawyer did?"

Because she's an appellate judge and there's a 6th amendment right to effective counsel. She voted to affirm the

conviction in spite of the lawyer's having slept during trial. As I said before, it wasn't quite as bad as it sounds, but Iseriously doubt she'd get an outright majority in the Senate- I expect several Republican senators would vote againsther. Honestly, I'm pretty darn conservative, and some of her opinions seem a little overboard to me. She writes withkind of an arrogant style, as if her ideology were the only legitimate one. I'd put her well to the right of a Scalia, who Iadmire greatly.

9 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:35:18 PM by Altair333 (Stop illegal immigration: George Allen in 2008)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 7 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

very nice. I'd like to see a full transcript of the speech. Not quite as good as Janice Rogers Brown's:

'A whiter shade of Pale'

10 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:35:48 PM by traviskicks (http://www.neoperspectives.com/scotuspropertythieving.htm)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: SittinYonder

Judge Edith H. Jones of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit for Supreme Court!

11 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:37:02 PM by dvan

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 4 | View Replies ]

To: Liz; DrewsDad; basil; Gracey; TheSarce; tarawa

I'm just amazed that she has a degree from UT. How did she turn out this way?

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

death.)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

The link to this article is dead. Can you provide another one? Thanks!

13 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:44:16 PM by Zack Nguyen

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

bug bump

14 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:45:42 PM by tophat9000 (When the State ASSUMES death...It makes an ASH out of you

and me..)[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

bump for later.

15 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:46:20 PM by GOPJ

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

Amazing that this sort of thing happened at Harvard. Possibly the leftists would have objected if only they could have

understood it.

16 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:48:13 PM by Zack Nguyen

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Aquinasfan

You'll no doubt enjoy this.

17 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:48:51 PM by Zack Nguyen

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 16 | View Replies ]

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

Oh, yes, yes.

Fianlly had the guts to say what everyone KNOWS.

18 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:49:40 PM by Fido969 ("The story is true" - Dan Rather)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz; sharktrager

Sadly, in accordance with the theme of speech, because of her ability to speak the truth she will likely be denied a well

earned place on the high court. It would be nice however to see her tangle with Kennedy, Leahy and Schumer.

19 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:50:15 PM by markedman (Lay me down to a watery grave)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

Yes it is ... and it's time to throw it out and start over... say with the original intent constitution. I would also tar andfeather ANYONE who would advocate anymore idiotic and unconstitutional freedom stealing nanny laws

20 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:51:03 PM by clamper1797 (Advertisments contain the only truths to be relied on in a

newspaper)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

What's her stance on the Second Amendment?

21 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 3:54:34 PM by Dead Corpse (Never underestimate the will of the downtrodden to lie flatter.)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Zack Nguyen

Yes. I'm surprised these remarks didn't cause a near riot at Harvard. This woman makes so much sense that clearly she

has no shot at the court.

22 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:01:21 PM by kjo

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 16 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

23 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:02:57 PM by Loyal Buckeye

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: markedman

I agree. She seems to represent what the Founding Fathers intended a Supreme Court Justice to be, which is a death

sentence as a nominee.

Scared Bunny Blog

Not for the timid

24 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:03:14 PM by sharktrager (My life is like a box of chocolates, but someone took all the

good ones.)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 19 | View Replies ]

lawyer...One who manipulates the law for personal gain and financial profit.

25 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:03:45 PM by cynicom

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 10 | View Replies ]

To: SittinYonder

I second that.

L

26 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:03:46 PM by Lurker (" Many are already stating that the decision in Kelo renders the

contract null and void.")

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 4 | View Replies ]

To: SittinYonder

Good grief, put this woman on SCOTUS.

Bump

27 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:04:13 PM by D Rider

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 4 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

28 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:04:49 PM by aculeus (Ceci n'est pas une tag line.)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Zack Nguyen; Liz; Admin Moderator

Corrected link

29 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:20:34 PM by Constitutionalist Conservative (Have you visited http://c-pol.blogspot.com?)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 13 | View Replies ]

To: Constitutionalist Conservative

Thanks!

30 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:22:43 PM by Zack Nguyen

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 29 | View Replies ]

To: TXBubba

A few students seem to escape the brain-washing, it seems.

31 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:55:09 PM by basil (Exercise your Second Amendment--buy another gun today!)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 12 | View Replies ]

To: Liz; All

BUMP

(because it is all so very very very very very very very true.)

and the mandatory Bars refuse to do anything because they support the incivility.

32 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 5:01:46 PM by longtermmemmory (VOTE!)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

Judge Jones is proof that there is still hope yet...

33 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 5:05:13 PM by EternalVigilance ("If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

Bump. This needs more visibility.

34 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 5:07:35 PM by zeugma (Democrats and muslims are varelse...)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: basil

Hi basil, The BIG surprise here is, Harvard allows The Federalist Society on campus. Who knew?

I like the idea of a another independent, big sky western woman replacing Sandra Day. Democrats will have a hard

time arguing with that word picture after they've professed their admiration so strong for O'Connor.

And forgive me mentioning the London tragedy in this context, but the Democrats are going to look pretty darn bad if

they continue to thwart the nomination process after this 9-ll wake up call. We're at war, and democrats betterremember that.

35 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 5:14:12 PM by YaYa123 (@Ted Kennedy, ..you're done.com)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 31 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

Why I do believe Edith is campaigning. ;^D

36 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 5:17:26 PM by dangus

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

>> I saw the movie 'Chicago' with Richard Gere the other day. >>

What's she doing hanging out with Richa--- Oh, nevermind.

37 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 5:18:24 PM by dangus

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: YaYa123

Hi, YA YA! I'm not sure the Dims ever got the concept that we are at war. They still think the prisoners we take should be tried in a

court of law like they were American citizens! How skewed is that?

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 35 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

Isn't it interesting that we have a legal system that is so convoluted that we now live in a time where two different

lawyers can have such diametrically opposed views on how a certain law should be interpreted and adjudicated?

39 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 5:40:46 PM by american spirit

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: kjo

She was speaking to members of the Federalist Society. I'm sure her remarks would not have gone over well with thegeneral student body.

The Federalist Society consists of libertarians and conservatives interested in the current state of the legal profession.

40 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 6:05:47 PM by jrp

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 22 | View Replies ]

Later pingout and I want her on the SCOTUS!

41 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 6:12:10 PM by little jeremiah (A vitiated state of morals, a corrupted public conscience, are

incompatible with freedom. P. Henry)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

"The judge quoted George Washington who asked in his Farewell Address, Where is the security for property, for

reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths in courts of justice?'"

Today, "oaths" are considered by many of the Liberal Left to be merely symbolic words, having little meaning except

as "promises."

George Washington, in the quotation cited above, recognizes the Founders' view that oaths were much more than mere

mortal promises. They were intended, in the "courts of justice," to signify what the Founders believed to be"obligations" before a Higher Authority, thus, trustworthy pledges.

Let John Quincy Adams explain it, as he did in New York City on the 50th Anniversary of the Inauguration of George

Washington in his "Jubilee of the Constitution of the United States." Here are his words:

"To complete the organization of the government by the institution of the chief executive departments and the

establishment of judicial courts, was among the first duties of Congress.

The constitution had provided that all

the public functionaries of the Union, not only of the general but of all the state governments, should be under

oath or affirmation for its support. The homage of religious faith was thus superadded to all the obligations of

temporal law, to give it strength; and this confirmation of an appeal to the responsibilities of a future

omnipotent judge, was in exact conformity with the whole tenor of the Declaration of Independence. . . ."

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

year history of America under its Constitution, as well as the history of its philosophical underpinnings in theDeclaration of Independence.

The question is: who understands better the philosophy, principles, and protections of the United States

Constitution better, John Quincy Adams, or the ACLU and the Liberals of today?

Adams, the eldest son of John Adams, born in 1767, served as Minister to the Netherlands under President

Washington, as minister to Prussia and to Russia, as Secretary of State, and as U. S. Senator. He was the SixthPresident of the United States and from 1830 until his death in his seat in the Congress, he was a U. S. Congressman.

42 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 8:01:19 PM by loveliberty2

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

I like the cut of her jib.

43 posted on Thursday, July 07, 2005 11:36:07 PM by Texas_Jarhead

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Zack Nguyen

You'll no doubt enjoy this.

I did. Thanks. I had a friend who went to Harvard Law. They did a job on his head with " Critical Legal Theory ." A

sample:

If legal theory is to be progressive it must be critical and must address the role of law as a primary

facilitator of exploitation and discrimination. ...

He's now a corporate lawyer, ironically and predictably enough.

44 posted on Friday, July 08, 2005 8:33:24 AM by Aquinasfan (Isaiah 22:22, Rev 3:7, Mat 16:19)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 17 | View Replies ]

To: eyespysomething

SCOTUS anyone?

45 posted on Friday, July 08, 2005 8:45:57 AM by SittinYonder (America is the Last Beach)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 27 | View Replies ]

To: Altair333

You're right. Judge Jones' opinion in Burdine will doom her, as well it should. I read that case, and it was WAY worsethan it sounds.

The 5th Circuit sitting en banc reversed her, but the damage was done. She'll never be confirmed or I suspect even

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

It's too bad. I had followed Judge Jones for years and thought that she would be excellent for the Supreme Court, but

Burdine and similar cases tell me that she believes that anything the government does in criminal case is OK, evenperjury, false evidence, framing an innocent person. She just doesn't get the "innocent until proven guilty" or "dueprocess" thing. That's disqualifies her from being a Supreme Court justice in my opinion.

I'd vote against her if I were a senator. And that's too bad. She could have been great, but her rabid pro-prosecution

stance which even the 5th Circuit couldn't abide is unacceptable.

46 posted on Friday, July 08, 2005 9:04:24 AM by Iwo Jima

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 9 | View Replies ]

To: Liz

....imagine, if you will, these activist judges being...(gulp).....radical Muslims....

47 posted on Friday, July 08, 2005 9:08:11 AM by smiley

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: thompsonsjkc; odoso; animoveritas; DaveTesla; mercygrace; Laissez-faire capitalist; ...

Moral Absolutes Ping.

Very good read. I vote for her on the SCOTUS, not that my vote means anything. SHe unabashedly speaks the truth

about the very foundation of law, morality and their connection. The statement "you can't legislate morality" istrounced soundly.

Freepmail me if you want on/off this pinglist.

48 posted on Friday, July 08, 2005 12:09:45 PM by little jeremiah (A vitiated state of morals, a corrupted public conscience, are

incompatible with freedom. P. Henry)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Mrs. Don-o

49 posted on Friday, July 08, 2005 12:50:27 PM by Mrs. Don-o (Gaudium et Spes)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

To: Onyxx

for later discussion

50 posted on Friday, July 08, 2005 1:39:11 PM by Unknown Freeper (Doing my part...)

[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies ]

JUDGE EDITH H. JONES Tells Harvard Law School: "American Legal System Is Corrupt Beyond Recognition"

first 1-50, 51-94 next last

herein are protected by copyright law and the exemption for fair use of copyrighted works.

Topics · Post Article

FreeRepublic , LLC, PO BOX 9771, FRESNO, CA 93794

FreeRepublic.com is powered by software copyright 2000-2008 John Robinson